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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF THE SCIENCE ADVISOR

Dr. Michael Delaney, Chair Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board Massachusetts Water Resource Authority 190 Tafts Ave. Winthrop, MA 02152

Dear Dr. Delaney:

Thank you for the Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board's (ELAB) letter, dated September 19, 2018, to Dr. Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, regarding instrument performance criteria in EPA methods. EPA values suggestions on how to increase the performance of instrumentation in its analytical methods. It is clear that ELAB has worked diligently to provide the proposed minimum validation criteria for mass spectral libraries to optimize instrument parameters.

We have provided the Office of Water, Office of Emergency Land Management, and the EPA Scientific Support Panel (with representatives for all Offices and Regions) with your letter to consider the recommendations as they apply to the measurement methods under their purview. EPA does not anticipate any further action from ELAB on this issue.

Sincerely

Tom Sinks, Ph.D.

Director

Office of the Science Advisor